

CLAIMS

1 1. Computing machine (1) comprising a RAM (3) and a mass memory (5) in
2 which an operating system is stored, characterized in that the mass memory (5) comprises a
3 partition (8) that is read-only accessible to the operating system, said partition (8) containing
4 a startup function, an automatic repair function, and a function for mounting said operating
5 system.

1 2. Computing machine according to claim 1, characterized in that said startup
2 function comprises a first code sequence for loading the contents of the partition (8) into
3 RAM (3) and a second code sequence for activating in RAM said automatic repair function.

1 3. Computing machine according to claim 2, characterized in that said automatic
2 repair function comprises a third code sequence that calls said mounting function, executable
3 in RAM (3) with write capability in at least one other partition (9) of the mass memory (5).

1 4. Computing machine according to claim 3, characterized in that said automatic
2 repair function comprises a fourth code sequence for acknowledging an error indicated by
3 said mounting function and a fifth code sequence for restarting the machine after the
4 acknowledgement of the error.

1 5. Computing machine according to claim 4, characterized in that said partition
2 (8) contains a standard acknowledgement function and in that the fourth code sequence calls
3 said standard acknowledgement function executable in RAM with write capability in at least
4 one other partition (9) of the mass memory.

1 6. Computing machine according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in
2 that the mass memory (5) is a hard disk.

1 7. Method for automatically starting a computing machine (1) comprising a
2 RAM (3) and a mass memory (5), characterized in that it comprises:

- 3 — a first step (14) that starts the machine (1) by means of a signal (7);

- 4 – a second step (15) that automatically loads into RAM (3) the contents of a
- 5 partition (8) of the mass memory (5);
- 6 – a third step (16) that automatically mounts an operating system from the RAM
- 7 (3);
- 8 – a fourth step (17) that automatically acknowledges any error indicated in the
- 9 third step (16) and that reactivates the second step (15).

1 8. Method according to claim 7, characterized in that it comprises, in the
2 manufacturing phase of the machine (1):

- 3 – a fifth step (11) that creates partitions (8, 9) in the mass memory (5);
- 4 – a sixth step (12) that stores at least part of the operating system and functions
- 5 for executing the second, third and fourth steps (15, 16, 17) in a first partition
- 6 (8);
- 7 – a seventh step (14) that declares said first partition (8) to be read-only
- 8 accessible to said operating system.

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